

## Message Text

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61

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 FEA-01 /108 W

----- 092084

R 291445Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3239

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0602

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, LY, FR

SUBJECT: FRANCO-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO LIBYA, CABOUAT, TOLD ME RECENTLY THAT THERE HAD BEEN VERY LITTLE MOVEMENT IN FRANCO-LIBYAN RELATIONS SINCE THE CHIRAC VISIT OF MAR 20. HE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO FACT LIBYAN LEADERS WERE MUCH TOO PREOCCUPIED WITH INTERNAL POLITICS.

2. ONLY SUBJECT UNDER ACTIVE NEGOTIATION WAS RENEWAL OF MILITARY COOPERATION AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH FRENCH ASSISTANCE FOR MIRAGE TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE IS PROVIDED. HE SAID PROBLEM WAS OBTAINING LIBYAN GUARANTEES FOR WORKING CONDITIONS AND PRIVILEGES OF FRENCH TECHNICIANS WHO FOUND LIFE IN LIBYA DIFFICULT. ALSO AGREEMENT BEING EXPANDED TO COVER COOPERATION IN THE NAVAL FIELD SINCE LIBYANS WERE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING SOME FRENCH-BUILT PATROL CRAFT WHICH WOULD REQUIRE TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE.

3. LITTLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON NUCLEAR  
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AGREEMENT WHICH ENVISAGED NUCLEAR POWER SOURCE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH LARGE DESALINIZATION PLANT.  
BILATERAL SAFEGUARD AGREEMENTS AND IAEA (VIENNA)  
APPROVAL WOULD BE FIRST STEP. IN ANY EVENT HE  
OBSERVED THAT NEGOTIATIONS AND ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION  
WOULD BE A LENGTHY PROCESS AND THAT FRUITION OF PROJECT  
WAS YEARS - PERHAPS DECADES AWAY.

4. POLITICAL RELATIONS LEVEL IN GENERAL, HE CON-  
CLUDED, REMAINED GOOD BUT PROBLEM IS THAT LIBYANS  
REGARD LESS THAN FULL SUPPORT ON MIDDLE EAST  
ISSUES AS INDICATION OF LACK OF FRENCH SINCERITY.  
CARLE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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